

# THE NEWPORT PLAIN TALK

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NO. 42

## CHAMPION LUMBER CO. OFFICIALS TAKE HOLD

### INSPECT PLANT AT CRESTMONT

No Plans for the Future Are  
Announced

### TO BUILD MORE TRACKAGE

Rumored that the Crestmont Plant  
Will Shut Down for a Period of  
Four Months While the Mill  
is Being Put in Condition.

Officials of the Champion Lumber company, the five million dollar concern which was recently organized in New York and which absorbed the company owning the Pigeon River Lumber company's interests, come to Newport last Thursday in the private car "Commonwealth" and were taken to Crestmont where the property was taken over.

Many millions of dollars were represented in the men who were in the party, which consisted of fifteen representatives of the L. B. Leach & Co. of New York; Clark L. Poole & Co. of Chicago; Trimble DeWitt Co. of New York and Chicago; Champion Fibre Co., and William Whitmer & Sons of Philadelphia.

The party was headed by R. F. Whitmer who has been chosen president of the big Champion Lumber company. Others in the party were Bruce Campbell, C. B. Fortier, H. A. Wadleigh, J. W. Bell, L. C. Smith, C. A. Wetmore, H. C. Zwetsch, James G. Campbell, N. F. Holch, W. H. Bower, LeRoy Harvey, J. C. Patterson and J. E. Craddock. Mr. Wetmore is one of the biggest bond men of the United States being the representative of the L. B. Leach & Co. of New York. It was announced by Mr. Whitmer while here that Mr. Craddock would be the manager of his Crestmont plant.

Definite plans as to the future work of the company in the vicinity of the Crestmont plant could not be learned, but it was rumored that the plant would be shut down for a period of four months during which time twelve miles of additional railroad will be built into the mountains for the purpose of getting the timber to the mill with the least possible expense. It is said, also, that the capacity of the band mill at Crestmont will be increased to 175,000 feet of lumber daily. The mill will offer employment to a great many more men in the future than in the past. The policy of the new company will also call for many other improvements. It is said that a pulp mill is contemplated and that there is a probability that this mill will be located at Crestmont. The officials did not talk in reference to the proposed extension of the Tennessee and North Carolina railroad as President Hart was not with the party, as had been planned. President Hart had planned to join the other officials here on Saturday and accompany them through the mountains to Canton, but because of the bad weather, the trip was abandoned and President Hart did not come this time. The rain marred the visit of the officials in several ways as they had planned to spend several days inspecting the properties of the Pigeon River Lumber company, but inasmuch as the high waters of the day previous had washed out several trestles they were unable to get back into the mountains and look over the beautiful hardwood tracts which have fallen into their possession. The car was returned to Newport Saturday night and was taken to Asheville on the train No. 102, and the next visit of the officials was planned for Canton.

### KILLS 4 RELATIVES, THEN ENDS LIFE

Old Montana Stockman Rides  
Two Horses 50 Miles, to  
Do Killing.

Billings, Mont., April 12.—CHIEF Roots, an old-time stock man, murdered his father-in-law, F. A. Rehder, his step-son, Jas. Bridges, Mrs. W. S. Thompson, a neighbor, and his own wife and then killed himself. Rehder was playing cards with a friend, when Roots rode up and fired three shots through the door, killing Rehder instantly and tearing one of his companion's ears off. Roots then went to the ranch of James Bridges, son of his first wife, and shot him to death without warning. From there he rode to the ranch of Mrs. W. S. Thompson, widowed sister of his first wife, and shot her dead. Returning to his own ranch, Roots shot and killed his wife, then went into a field and blew out his brains.

A note found by officers, addressed to his former wife and written presumably after he killed wife No. 2, said that as she had taken his boy from him, he would take her boys away from her.

Another son of the first wife, living in a remote section of the Bull mountains, has not been heard from, and it is thought that Roots murdered him. It is also feared that Ralph Bridges, his wife and baby have been killed. Cowboys have started to Bull Mountain Ranch, but are not expected to return until tomorrow. Roots covered at least fifty miles, using two horses, while perpetrating his murders.

### INSTRUCTION FOR COUNTY TEACHERS

A Normal Will be Held at Jones'  
High School, First  
District.

The county Normal School of instruction for teachers will be held beginning May 1, at Jones' High School in the First district. The school will last for four weeks and is held for the purpose of giving teachers instruction prior to the Normal which is held here in June. Prof. S. L. Rollins will be in charge of the school of instruction.

### ACROSS GRAVES OF TWO WIVES

Banker Found Dead With  
Bullet Hole in His  
Head.

Redding, Cal., April 12.—E. T. Bailey, Vice-President of the Bank of Northern California of this city, was found in a cemetery last week, lying across the graves of his two wives with a bullet hole in his head and an empty revolver by his side. The following note was found on his body:

"I am weary and worn and physically and mentally unable to bear the load."

Bailey has been ill for weeks.

### JUDGE H. N. CATE SIGNS DOCKET

Judge H. N. Cate spent Thursday in Jefferson City. He was accompanied by his young son, Evan. While in Jefferson City, Judge Cate signed the Circuit Court Docket of Jefferson county, as he had held court just prior to his appointment as a member of the Court of Civil Appeals.

## BIG WATER TANK IS DESTROYED

Unexplained Accident Occurs  
at McCabe Lumber Co.

### DROPS WITHOUT WARNING

Was Wrecked Beyond Repair—  
Guy Wire of the Smoke Stack  
Torn Away and the Stack, too  
is Knocked Down.

Without warning and from a cause unknown, the big 10,000 gallon water tank of the McCabe Lumber Company fell Saturday afternoon and was completely demolished on the ground. In its fall one of the guy wires sustaining the smoke stack was broken and caused the stack to fall, also.

No one was injured although several had very narrow escapes from injury. A crew of carpenters working in the building recently moved, were given a scare as the big stack fell immediately across the roof of the building in which they were employed, and as there had been no warning they were not prepared for the crash which followed. Some few of the rafters were broken and the stack was badly smashed, but not beyond repair. The crash was heard up town, and people living in the vicinity of the mill were sent to their doors in a hurry.

The damage has been estimated at seven hundred and fifty dollars.

## CONTRACTORS ARE PLEASED WITH WORK

Peters & Gibson Here Planning  
to Bring Macadam Outfits  
to the Scene.

Peters and Gibson, the road contractors were here Friday and are making preparations for the bringing of their macadam outfits here at once. These contractors want to get to the work at once, and are being kept back by the wet weather. The contractors were much elated with the progress being made by their sub-contractors, who in spite of continued wet weather are making the dirt fly throughout the county. Seven crews are at work on the grading at the present time and five macadam outfits will be here as soon as the weather permits.

## ONE KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED

Officers Meet Moonshiners and  
a Bloody Affray is Result in  
Van Buren County.

Nashville, Tenn.,—April 10.—Henry Sullivan killed, Harman Mayers and one other moonshiner badly wounded is the result of a fight with five wildcat distillers in Van Buren county, about sixteen miles from Sparta, Tenn. Accompanied by Sheriff Hudson and Deputy Sheriff Cope, of White county, Deputy Collector F. E. Hagler led a raid into Van Buren county and early in the morning located an illicit distillery in full operation.

Five moonshiners made their appearance with guns in their hands and immediately began firing on the officers. The shooting then became general and it is said that altogether twenty shots were exchanged. When the smoke cleared it was found that Henry Sullivan was mortally wounded, Harman Mayers shot through the body and another, whose name has not been learned, shot through the arm.

Swan Goodnough of Del Rio, accompanied by his family left Monday morning for Centralia Washington, where he will join the other Cocke countians who have made their home in that section.

## OFFICERS FOR BOND ELECTION

A Good Set of Officials Has  
Been Named

### BONDS WILL BE VOTED ON

Very Little Opposition to the Plan  
for the Corporation to Own Its  
Own Water System—Mass Meet-  
ings are Contemplated.

The date for the holding of the election here to determine whether the people of Newport want to issue bonds for the construction of a system of waterworks, draws near.

The officials who will conduct the election have been named by the election commissioners and the personal of the election board is such that there is no question but what a fair and impartial election will be held. The officer of the election will be W. D. McSween. The judges will be E. S. Early, J. P. Hedrick and L. S. Allen. The clerks will be W. B. Wilson and A. A. Cates. The registrars are George W. Willis, C. A. Robeson and G. F. Smith, C. B. Allen and Ben Cliff will be the doorkeepers.

There is now no doubt as to the mind of the people in reference to the issuing of the bonds and it is predicted that the town will vote for the issuance of same by an overwhelming majority. There are only a few interested further in private ownership and it is not believed that they will make any fight as they have learned that the majority of the people are overwhelming in favor of waterworks.

A serious of meetings will be held during the ten days preceding the election in which the possibilities of the system will be set before the voters.

## MANY WILL HEAR MISS MOONEY

Vocalist With Miss Burns Violin  
Quartette Has Many  
Friends here.

For the benefit of the Baptist church, the violin quartette of Miss Amelia Burns of Knoxville, will appear at the Opera House Thursday, April 20. The ladies of the Baptist church have planned certain improvements in the way of furnishings of the Baptist church and have arranged for the appearance of the quartette here for the purpose of raising funds for this purpose. Miss Burns and her quartette have appeared here before and are prime favorites in Newport. Miss Georgie Mooney who will be the vocalist has visited in Newport several times and has many friends here, as well as many admirers of her voice.

## TRAIN OF POULTRY AND LIVE STOCK

Valued at \$48,000 Shipped to  
the East From Morris-  
town.

Morristown, Tenn., April 10.—A solid train load of poultry and live stock was shipped from the local market Saturday, consigned to dealers in Baltimore, New York and other eastern markets. The train included three cars of live poultry and thirteen cars of eggs, valued at approximately \$48,000. A car of cattle was shipped to one concern in Greensboro, S. C. Regular shipments of poultry from this market during the past few weeks have averaged from six to twenty cars a week. The greater portion of the shipments made during the past two weeks have been eggs in car lots. Local dealers are buying their usual amount of live poultry every week but a large number of the chickens are placed in feeding stations and fattened for later shipment.

## MANY PERISH IN MINE HORRORS

North and South Have Serious  
Accidents Same Day

### OVER 500 CONVICTS DIE

Lives Were Snuffed Out in a Mine  
Near Birmingham, Ala., While  
Nearly 100 Die as the Result of  
of Mine Fire in Pennsylvania.

Littleton, Ala., April 12.—One hundred and twenty-eight men lost their lives here, Saturday in the Banner coal mine, as the result of an explosion. The explosion was different from the usual, as there were practically no mourners at the mouth of the shafts awaiting information from those below, as the men who lost their lives were in the main part convicts, hired out by the state to the Pratt Consolidated Coal Company.

Two mine horrors, one occurring in the hard coal fields of Pennsylvania and the other in the Birmingham coal fields, snuffed out the lives of over two hundred miners Saturday. In Alabama the majority of the men who perished were negro convicts while in Pennsylvania, the men were mostly miners.

Scranton, Pa., April 12.—Seventy four men are dead as the result of a mine explosion at the Pentacost colliery, near Throop, Saturday. No explanation of the method of death has been made, as the rigid mine inspection of Pennsylvania is such that it was not deemed possible that such an accident could occur. A fire started at 9 o'clock in the morning, and it was two hours later before those on the outside realized the danger to the men working in the tunnel, and a party set out to warn them, but this party waded into white damp, and those composing it were among the first bodies to be recovered.

About every other house in the village of Throop, a typical mining settlement had crepe on its door, and in some houses there were more than one corpse. One monster funeral was held Monday.

## CLEAN-UP WEEK HAS BEEN SUCCESS

The Old Town Will Hardly Recognize  
Itself Without the  
Dirt.

Clean-up week is with us, and the women of the Improvement club are certainly to be commended for their first effort as the town is presenting an altogether different appearance and there are still several days left of the week. The receptacles which the board of aldermen are to provide for the business section have not yet been placed and until this feature is added it will be impossible for the paper to be kept from the streets but the lesson of the week has been such that the town will hardly ever be in the position again of being in such a condition as to call forth the attention of the women of the city.

## SMALL BOY FALLS AND BREAKS ARM

Sherman Robeson Sustains a  
Serious Injury While  
at Play.

While playing with a small wagon at the home of his parents Sherman the young son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Robeson fell and broke both bones in his forearm. The accident occurred Monday morning. The little fellow is doing as well as could be expected.

## REBEL FORCE IS WIPED OUT

An American Army Deserter  
Leads Little Band to Death

### EIGHTY ATTACKED 500

General Stanley Williams With Do  
or Die Spirit Tries the Impossi-  
ble and His Forces are Swept to  
Pieces and Himself Killed,

Mexicali Texas April 12.—Gen Stanley Williams hurled his little battalion of rebels against Col. Miguel Mayot's 500 Mexican regulars on the mesa five miles south of Mexicali Saturday. Eighty insurgents went into fight. Fifty returned from battlefield.

Williams himself was fatally wounded and died in the hospital here. With his fleeing command he was overtaken by a shell, which burst like a geyser in their midst, sending up flames and fragments of human bodies. His wagon trains were captured with nearly all of stores and live stock which he took in his raid Friday, on several ranches. Survivors straggling into Mexicali declared that the federalists took no prisoners. All those not killed by the fire of the federal rifles, machine guns and artillery were, it is alleged, slaughtered mercilessly by bayonets in the hands of federal soldiers. These latter also, it is declared, fired on the hospital tent and ambulance which accompanied the rebels to the battlefield. Dr. W. R. Larkins, the surgeon in charge, and his assistants, who reached Mexicali with the survivors, appealed to United States authorities to send Red Cross aid to the scene of the battle and save those they could of the wounded.

News of the rebels' repulse was brought by a mounted rebel, who with one arm nearly shot off, fell exhausted from his horse in front of the headquarters of the insurrecto commander in chief, Gen. Salinas, and burst into tears. "We have been slaughtered," he cried. "My pal was killed beside me."

Asked who his comrade was, he replied. "Gen. Stanley."

Williams was still known as "Stanley" to his men of the independent division of the liberal army, despite the revelation of his real name and the fact that he was a deserter from the ninth infantry of the United States army.

Later Williams was brought in alive but pronounced fatally wounded and taken to the United States army hospital in the custom house at Calexico, across the line.

Every detail of Williams' sortie from the entrenched position of the rebels here in Mexicali, emphasized the daring of his assault on the overwhelming federal forces. With his troops in the military formation of a column of twos, he marched directly south after crossing the sixty-foot wash of the new river which surrounds the town on three sides and constitutes its most formidable defense. His cavalry, number 27, formerly the advance guard for his infantry, and in the rear, brought up his train with all the supplies and live stock taken in his recent raids as if fully confident of cutting his way through the federalists.

The ambulance, a converted wagon, taken from the Cudaby ranch, trailed behind.

On short dashes, the cavalry advanced to reconnoiter, while the infantry waited. This was at 9 a. m. Two hours later they encountered the first outposts of Mayot's force, four miles south of Mexicali. Mayot's men of the Eighth battalion used smokeless powder, but the smoke from the black powder of the rebel cartridges revealed their position at each spot.

Williams deployed his men in open order to render the fire of the federal machine guns and artillery least disastrous. The ambulance was posted in a

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